Thesis sentence

History of basketball did not only change basketball society, it changed society itself.

<http://espn.go.com/classic/s/013101_texas_western_fitzpatrick.html>

During March Madness in 1996 a serious risk was taken to change society and shocked the whole United States. Texas Western University was playing against Kentucky for the Championship. It all started during March Madness when both teams met to play on March 19, 1996. For the first time in NCAA history, the head coach for Texas Western started the first black starting five. Until that moment, at the height of the civil-rights era, no major-college team had ever started five blacks in an NCAA championship game. Not only did they start five colored individuals to change society, but they also made a statement and won the NCAA national championship.

<http://www.kansasheritage.org/people/naismith.html>

Dr. James Naismith is known world-wide as the inventor of basketball. After serving as McGill's Athletic Director, James Naismith moved on to the YMCA Training School in Springfield, Massachusetts, USA in 1891, where the sport of basketball was born. In Springfield, Naismith was faced with the problem of finding a sport that was suitable for play inside during the Massachusetts winter for the students at the School for Christian Workers. Naismith wanted to create a game of skill for the students instead of one that relied solely on strength. He needed a game that could be played indoors in a relatively small space. The first game was played with a soccer ball and two peach baskets used as goals. Naismith joined the University of Kansas faculty in 1898, teaching physical education and being a chaplain.

James Naismith devised a set of thirteen rules of basketball:

The ball may be thrown in any direction with one or both hands.

The ball may be batted in any direction with one or both hands, but never with the fist.

A player cannot run with the ball. The player must throw it from the spot on which he catches it, allowance to be made for a man running at good speed.

The ball must be held in or between the hands. The arms or body must not be used for holding it.

No shouldering, holding, pushing, striking or tripping in any way of an opponent. The first infringement of this rule by any person shall count as a foul; the second shall disqualify him until the next goal is made or, if there was evident intent to injure the person, for the whole of the game. No substitution shall be allowed.

A foul is striking at the ball with the fist, violations of Rules 3 and 4 and such as described in Rule 5.

If either side make three consecutive fouls it shall count as a goal for the opponents (consecutive means without the opponents in the meantime making a foul).

Goal shall be made when the ball is thrown or batted from the ground into the basket and stays there, providing those defending the goal do not touch or disturb the goal. If the ball rests on the edge and the opponents move the basket, it shall count as a goal.

When the ball goes out of bounds, it shall be thrown into the field and played by the first person touching it. In case of dispute the umpire shall throw it straight into the field. The thrower-in is allowed five seconds. If he holds it longer, it shall go to the opponent. If any side persists in delaying the game, the umpire shall call a foul on them.

The umpire shall be judge of the men and shall note the fouls and notify the referee when three consecutive fouls have been made. He shall have the power to disqualify men according to Rule 5.

The referee shall be the judge of the ball and decide when it is in play in bounds, to which side it belongs, and shall keep the time. He shall decide when a goal has been made and keep account of the goals with any other duties that are usually performed by a referee.

The time shall be two 15-minute halves with five minutes' rest between.

The side making the most goals in that time shall be declared the winners.

<http://www.nbahoopsonline.com/Articles/History1.html>

The First basketball type game may have been played by the early Olmec people of ancient Mexico as early as 500 years go. The Aztec, and Mayan cultures also had a game similar to basketball, only instead of a rubber ball they used the decapitated skulls of their conquered foes. The First true basketball game as we know it was on January 20th, 1892 in Springfield, Massachusetts. Canadian Doctor James Naismith invented the game for the YMCA to play during the winter months. Naismith wrote simple rules for the game, and nailed up two peach baskets for hoops, most of original Naismith rules are still in place today. Some of the rules have changed a bit, and new rules have been added since then, such as in the original game bouncing the ball was prohibited. Of the 13 rules, nine have been modified and kept in the modern game of basketball, the rest have been disregarded. The First game consisted of 18 players, or nine to a team which was standard to the baseball teams of the day. Since Naismith or the YMCA didn’t have the money to design a new ball they used a soccer ball. The concept of the game must have been foreign to the players as the game was played for 30 minutes and the final score was 1-0. Halfway though the game however William R. Chase made the ball go into the peach basket, and thus became the first player to ever score in a basketball game. It was during this game that someone suggested a name for this new sport, Basketball.

<http://inventors.about.com/od/inventorsalphabet/a/James_Naismith.htm>

James Naismith was born in Ramsay township, near Almonte, Ontario, Canada and attended McGill University in Montreal, Quebec. After serving as McGill's Athletic Director, James Naismith moved on to work at the YMCA Training School in Springfield, Massachusetts, in 1891. The game of basketball was inspired by a children's game James Naismith knew called duck-on-a-rock, in which players throw a small rock at a "duck" placed on top of a large rock in an attempt to knock the "duck" off. While at Springfield, James Naismith invented basketball as a sport to play indoors during the cold Massachusetts winters. The first game of basketball was played with a soccer ball and two peach baskets used as goals. After changing the peach baskets for open hoop nets, James Naismith soon wrote thirteen official rules for the game.

<http://wiki.answers.com/Q/How_was_basketball_invented>

Naismith was a Canadian physical education instructor at the International YMCA Training School in Springfield, Massachusetts, in December of 1891. He was promted to come up with an activity from the director of the school, Dr. Luther Halsey Gulick, who wanted something to occupy a "class of incorragibles." Naismith may have had other motivations as well. Apparently, the class was tired of calisthenics. Naismith wanted to create a game of skill for the students instead of one that relied solely on strength. He needed a game that could be played indoors in a relatively small space. And he wanted to keep his football players in shape off-season. Luckily Naismith and his wife, who were Christians, subscribed to a Christian Missionary magazine from Central America. In it Naismith saw the feature article about the Aztec ball game called Ollamalitzli and the Mayan game of Ulama. He had also read up on articles by a New Zealander called Tom Ellison who wrote about ancient Maori ball sports that required alot of aerial handball skills. He took account of the hole that the round bouncy ball had to go through in the Central American games and the excitement of the traditional Maori game where a round flax ball was aerially passed with speed and dexterity. With his supportive wife he then devised a game suitable for a gym. Taking to the task at hand, Naismith rounded up two peach baskets (the janitor didn't have any boxes handy) and a soccer ball. Next, he developed 13 rules for the new game. He divided his class of 18 into 2 teams of 9 players each (the team today would be the equivalent of 3 guards, 3 centers, and 3 forwards) and set about to teach them the basics of his new game of basketball.

<http://www.ehow.com/video_5116489_basketball-invented_.html>

Basketball was invented by Dr. James Naismith in Massachusetts in order to create a game that could be played indoors and away from the cold weather. Learn about basketball organizations and rules that have arisen over the years with help from a college basketball coach and sports educator in this free video on the invention of basketball.

<http://www.rauzulusstreet.com/basketball/nba/nba.htm>

The National Basketball Association (NBA) is the premier basketball league in the world. The National Basketball Association (NBA) currently consists of 29 teams, in major cities of the United States and Canada. The NBA was founded in 1946 as the Basketball Association of America. It adopted the name National Basketball Association in the fall of 1949 after adding several teams from the rival National Basketball League.

<http://www.whoinventedit.net/who-invented-the-nba.html>

According to historical records, the National Basketball League and the Basketball Association of America were responsible for the invention of the NBA. One of the most important names among the members of those two pioneer basketball organizations was Walter A. Brown. In 1946, he was highly influential in establishing the BAA. Likewise, he is one of the individuals credited for merging the BAA and the National Basketball League, which eventually led to the start of the NBA. Aside from the NBA, he was also credited for establishing the Celtics franchise some time in 1945.

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